

NATIONAL FARM WORKER MINISTRY
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
TAMPA, FLORIDA - November 15, 1976

The NFWM Executive Committee convened at the Tampa, Florida Airport on Monday, November 15 at 11 A.M.

PRESENT John Moyer, Augie VandenBosche, Lydia Hernandez Trickey, Sr. Pat Drydyk, Kenneth Kennon, Olgha Sandman, Chris Hartmire.

PRESIDING John Moyer, president presided.

The Minutes of the last Executive Committee meeting were reviewed
It was

VOTED, That the Minutes of the previous Executive Committee meeting (7/20/76) be approved as mailed.

The Minutes of the last Board of Director's Meeting (5/10-12/76) were reviewed.

FINANCES The 10 Month Financial Report was reviewed and discussed. The Projected 1977 Budget was discussed. Both reports will be submitted to the Board of Directors later today for approval.

MEMBERSHIP The Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary have requested membership into the NFWM. It was unanimously

VOTED, to accept the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary into the membership of NFWM.

MICHIGAN FARM WORKER MINISTRY Ken Kennon reported on the Michigan Farm Worker Ministry decision to merge into full relationship with the NFWM. Discussion followed on the possibility of having a joint staff person who would be the Midwest Director for NFWM (based in Michigan) and give some priority to the leadership of MFWM. It was

VOTED, to affirm the direction of the Michigan Council of Churches with regard to the Michigan Farm Worker Ministry and to recommend that the NFWM Director, Chris Hartmire begin to search and select the appropriate person to fill the staff requirement.

AGENDA The proposed Agenda for the Board of Directors meeting was discussed, changed and adopted.

FUTURE DATES The dates of May 9-11, 1977 were suggested for the spring meeting of the Board of Directors.

Jun Atienza, Acting Director

NATIONAL FARM WORKER MINISTRY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
AVON PARK, FLORIDA — NOVEMBER 15-17, 1976

The NFWM Board members and friends gathered at the United Church Conference Center, Lake Byrd Lodge, Avon Park, Florida on Monday, November 15 at 6:30 p.m. for dinner and community singing.

- CHAIR Board president, Rev. John Moyer, presided and called the meeting to order. All those present introduced themselves. (Addendum A for attendance roster)
- NOMINATING COMMITTEE The chairperson appointed a nominating committee to report on Wednesday on nominations for officers and executive committee members. Howard Matson was named convener, with Doug Brian and Bob Fisher as members.
- PROPOSITION 14 CALIFORNIA NFWM Director, Rev. Wayne C. Hartmire, reported on the Prop. 14 campaign experience and results. He answered questions. The material covered was primarily an expansion on the Action Mailing dated Nov. 10, 1976, with additional information about the staff changes made by the Union after November 2. The changes were necessary to become ready for many field elections and contract negotiation campaigns in the months ahead. Some of the contract negotiations will probably require strikes and/or boycotts. Many remarks revealed a clear consensus that the Board was moved by the hard work and buoyancy of those who worked on the campaign and by the many positive aspects of the campaign. Board members urged that every effort be made to spread the story of why and how Proposition 14 lost, what results can be expected, and the future plans of the UFW.
- "A DAY WITHOUT SUNSHINE" The recent public TV documentary film "A Day Without Sunshine" was shown.
- SPECIAL MEETINGS The Board of the Florida Christian Migrant Ministry met, and a variety of informal meeting took place, including an orientation for persons attending their first Board meeting.
- RECESSED The meeting was recessed until Tuesday morning, November 16, 1976.
- FIELD VISITS Following a 6:45 a.m. breakfast, Board members went in three delegations: 1) To the Avon Park UFW Field Office where they met staff, workers, ranch committee members and stewards, the organizer of the Campesino Health Clinic and gained many insights into the UFW Florida operation, the hiring hall and the piece rate structure. 2) To the offices in Lakeland of Florida Citrus Mutual, representing the industry interests of both grove owners and processors where much knowledge was gained with regard to labor attitudes, legislative positions, economics and power of the industry. 3) To the Donald Duck—Citrus World Processing Plant and nearby huge phosphate strip mining operations where the members gained exposure to the public relations presentation of a huge scale highly automated citrus processing operation and the devastation and very limited cosmetic reclamation of the land by the phosphate divisions of several large conglomerate corporations.

Following the visits, each delegation shared reports with the others after returning to the Lodge.

STATE M.M.
REPORTS
INDIANA

Bob Hubbard reported on Indiana, emphasizing the response of churches and agencies to a labor camp confrontation and work stoppage this summer in Warren, Indiana.

WISCONSIN

Gene Boutilier reported on Wisconsin Migrant Mission — emphasizing the changes in personnel, continued emphasis on UFW and NFWM support and the recent defeat of migrant legislation.

ILLINOIS

Olgha Sandman reported on Illinois Farm Worker Ministry emphasizing the response of denominational leaders to the goals adopted at an IFWM Board retreat: primarily, one pointing toward merging with the NFWM, the decision of the Peoria Roman Catholic Diocese to join the ministry and the great success of the Solidarity Dinner held in Chicago this fall despite the departure of almost the entire Chicago boycott staff to California for Prop.14.

MICHIGAN

Ken Kennon distributed rules of procedure recently adopted by the Michigan Farm Worker Ministry, described the negotiations going on between NFWM, MFWM and the Michigan Council of Churches, and the dismissal for financial reasons of the Rev. John Rozendaal, Migrant Ministry staff person for the Michigan Council of Churches.

Chairperson Moyer reported to the Board that the Executive Committee had instructed the staff to pursue a jointly developed ministry in Michigan.

MINUTES

After review, it was

VOTED, That the Board Minutes of May 10-12, 1976 be approved as mailed.

NEW MEMBERS

The Board welcomed the report by John Moyer that the Executive Committee had received the Justice and Peace Office of the Diocese of Orlando and the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary as member organizations of NFWM.

PROP. 14
FROM INSIDE

Each of eight persons present who had worked full-time on Prop.14 shared experiences and insights gained.

NFWM RE-
ORGANIZATION

There was a lengthy discussion of the recommendations for reorganization recommended to the Board by the Executive Committee following the organizational meeting July 18-20 held in Los Angeles with Crosby Milne, several staff, Cesar Chavez and the Executive Committee. The format of the discussion was: (a) distribution of the transcript of the wall charts of the meeting to Board members, (b) a panel presentation of the major results of the meeting by John Moyer, Lydia Hernandez Trickey, Fred Eyster and Olgha Sandman, (c) 6 small group meetings to discuss the meeting results and to raise

NFWM RE-
ORGANIZATION
(continued)

any questions, and (d) a large group discussion and question-and-answer period led by Chris Hartmire.

Major points summarized:

- A. We historically made a very clear choice among 3 options — to minister to farm workers organizing in UFW under the leadership of Cesar Chavez rather than to minister to all farm workers organizing anything, or all farm workers in general.
- B. We are reorganizing now because Crosby Milne showed us new possibilities and because of the new fact that with the ALRB a reality, UFW is organizing for expansion and no longer for survival and is changing. NFWM should change too.
- C. Cesar Chavez laid two concerns on us at the July meeting:
 1. To help prevent the danger of UFW becoming "just another union" by consciously taking leadership to build community in farm worker areas by celebrations, finding a style of history-keeping and pastoral ministry.
 2. To explore the possibility of building economically viable communal farm worker communities living off creative farming, as an alternative to the loss of jobs caused by agribusiness achieving control of crop maturation and much greater mechanization.
- D. The Mission Dept. (which could use a better name) will focus on two goals: community-building in farm worker communities and organizing church people to meet farm worker needs.
- E. The regionalizing and spreading of staff responsibilities are strongly supported by the Board.
- F. More analysis is needed of the role of regional, state or local boards and councils in the new structure. Board members are concerned that accurate local analysis is communicated across NFWM structures and that local supporters are respected and meaningfully engaged in a partnership of mission which has a clear mechanism.
- G. Concerns were raised about NFWM response in a creative farm worker organizing situation which was not part of UFW strategy or UFW priority.

IT WAS

VOTED, That the Board approve the Executive Committee action of July 20 to "Approve the new direction of changes for the NFWM, specifically: to expand and departmentalize the central office functions; to create a department to expand and increase the link-